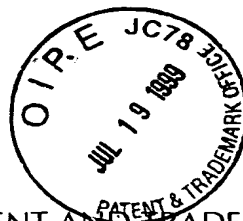


Attorney's Docket No. 627-318



SECTOR 4
#3

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: David McCray Peele
Serial No.: 09/299,403
Filed: April 26, 1999
For: TOBACCO PROCESSING

Group Art Unit: 1731

Date: July 14, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

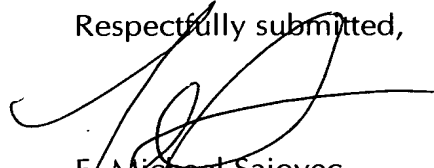
SUBMITTAL OF DECLARATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.63

Sir:

Enclosed is a Declaration and Power of Attorney for the above identified application which has been executed by the named inventors.

A check in the amount of \$130.00 is also enclosed to cover the surcharge under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(e). Any additional fee or credit may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220 .

Respectfully submitted,

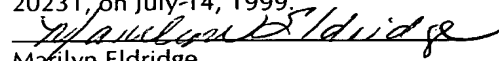


F. Michael Sajovec
Registration No. 31,793

Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone (919) 854-1400
Facsimile (919) 854-1401

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

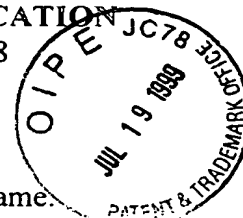
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Missing Parts Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on July-14, 1999.



Marilyn Eldridge
Date of Signature: July 14, 1999

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No. 627-318



As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name:

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled TOBACCO PROCESSING,

the specification of which was filed on April 26, 1999 as United States Application No. 09/299,403.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

None			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Number	Country	MM/DD/YYYY Filed	Priority Claimed

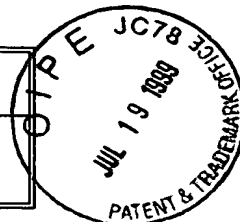
I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

None	
Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date

of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)).

None		
Appln. Serial No.	Filing Date	Status Patented/Pending/Abandoned



I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered attorney(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Customer Number 20792

AND

Grover M. Myers, Registration No. 25,359; and August J. Borschke, Registration No. 30,539 of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, P. O. Box 1487, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27102

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Inventor's
Signature:

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Date:

6/6/99

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